

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09134 241553Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CA-01 PER-01 VO-05 MMO-01 /019 W
-----037685 250136Z /64

R 241448Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9661

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9134

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN APER AFSP NI
SUBJECT: NEED FOR REDESIGNATION OF REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER
POSITION

1. SUMMARY. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE PRESENT REGIONAL
CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION BE REDESIGNATED AS A VISA UNIT
CHIEF POSITION WHEN THE PRESENT INCUMBENT IS TRANSFERRED IN
FEBRUARY OF 1979.

2. IN 76 LAGOS 4657, THE EMBASSY REQUESTED A GENERAL REVIEW
OF THE CONSULAR STAFFING IN LAGOS AND RECOMMENDED THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A VISA UNIT CHIEF AT THE O-4 LEVEL, RE-
CLASSIFICATION OF THE SECTION CHIEF POSITION AT THE O-3 LEVEL
AND RETENTION OF POSITIONS 30-025, 30-019 AND 30-131 (SHARED).

3. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT IN 76 STATE 107566
BUT WITH THE NEW O-4 POSITION DESIGNATED AS WEST AFRICAN
CIRCUIT RIDER, WITH ONE QUARTER TO ONE HALF OF THE DUTIES
OUTSIDE OF LAGOS, RATHER THAN AS THE VISA UNIT SUPERVISOR
RECOMMENDED BY THE POST.

4. REGRETFULLY, THE INCOMING CHIEF OF SECTION WAS NOT ADVISED
OF THIS SPLIT POSITION DURING BRIEFINGS IN WASHINGTON IN
JULY 1976 AND UPON HIS ARRIVAL ACCEPTED THE NEW POSITION AS
THAT OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF SECTION AND VISA UNIT SUPERVISOR,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 09134 241553Z

AS HE HAD BEEN TOLD IN WASHINGTON. THE INCUMBENT OF THE NEW
POSITION WAS ASKED TO ACT IN THAT CAPACITY AND DID SO UNTIL
THE ARRIVAL OF STATE 041997 IN FEBRUARY 1977 AND STATE 059523
IN MARCH 1977 ASSIGNING MS. RUTH BROOKS TO THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED
POSITION OF REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER. AT THAT TIME, THE
STAFFING WAS REORGANIZED TO REFLECT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE NEWLY CREATED REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER TO POSTS IN

AF/W AND AF/C, WITH REMAINING TIME AVAILABLE TO THE CONSULAR SECTION IN LAGOS.

5. IN PRACTICE, THE ARRANGEMENT HAS NOT WORKED OUT AS SUCCESSFULLY AS HOPED. WITH THE INCUMBENT OF THE POSITION AWAY 50 PERCENT OF THE TIME, THE VISA UNIT RESPONSIBILITY WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CHIEF OF SECTION, PREVENTING DESIRABLE CONTACT WITH MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, IMMIGRATION AND POLICE OFFICIALS WHICH WOULD INVOLVE LONG PERIODS OF TIME OUTSIDE THE OFFICE.

6. IT WAS PROPOSED IN A LETTER TO AF/EX DIRECTOR SALAZAR OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1977 THAT POSITION 30-031 BE REDESIGNATED FROM THAT OF REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER TO A FULL TIME POSITION IN LAGOS AS VISA UNIT SUPERVISOR. THE REDESIGNATION REQUEST WAS DISCUSSED WITH AF/EX AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE IN YAOUNDE IN JANUARY 1978, OUTLINED IN THE CONSULAR PACKAGE OF 1978 AND DISCUSSED WITH THE INSPECTORS IN MARCH OF 1978. NO COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT WAS INCLUDED IN THE INSPECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS SENT TO THE POST IN JULY 1978.

7. NON-IMMIGRANT VISA SERVICES HAVE INCREASED FROM 7138 IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1977 TO 10046 IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1978. THE SECOND HALF OF 1978 SHOULD INCREASE TO OVER 14,000 IF A COMPARABLE INCREASE TO THE 10414 VISA SERVICES IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1977 MATERIALIZES. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN NIV SERVICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09134 241553Z

OF SATISFACTORY QUALITY A WELL RUN SECTION IS ESSENTIAL WITH A SUPERVISOR ON THE SPOT TO FILL GAPS AS THEY DEVELOP.

8. IN ADDITION, THE HIGH PREVALENCE OF FRAUD REQUIRES CONSTANT ATTENTION. THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE WHEN VISA OFFICERS CANNOT SPARE TIME FROM WAITING APPLICANTS AND THE CHIEF OF SECTION IS INVOLVED WITH W/W, WELFARE, OR ARREST CASES. BECAUSE OF A LACK OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED COMPETENT LOCAL EMPLOYEES, WHO NORMALLY PROVIDE THE CONTINUITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF A VISA OPERATION, AN OFFICER IS REQUIRED TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH OVER STATISTICS, FILE CHECKS AND OTHER MECHANICAL FUNCTIONS OF THE VISA OPERATION, SPREADING THE ALREADY OVERBURDENED VISA OFFICERS EVEN MORE THINLY. THESE OFFICERS HAVE TIME ONLY FOR CONSTANT INTERVIEWS, WITH NO TIME FOR ROTATION TO OTHER DUTIES. THIS IS BAD MANAGEMENT AND POOR TRAINING FOR LESS EXPERIENCED OFFICERS.

9. THE PRESENT INCUMBENT OF POSITION 30-031, RUTH BROOKS, VERY MUCH ENJOYS HER REGIONAL DUTIES AND THINKS THE POSITION SHOULD BE RESIDENT IN LAGOS OR MONROVIA, BUT BELIEVES IT SHOULD BE FUNDED OUT OF WASHINGTON AND IN NO WAY BE A PART OF THE POST COMPLEMENT. THIS WAS THE IMPRESSION SHE WAS GIVEN WHEN SHE ACCEPTED THE JOB.

10. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT POSITION 30-031 BE
REDESIGNATED AS A FULL-TIME VISA UNIT CHIEF POSITION UPON
THE CONCLUSION OF MRS. BROOKS' TOUR OF DUTY IN FEBRUARY OF 1979.
THE NEED FOR THIS POSITION WHICH WAS APPARENT IN 1976 HAS
INCREASED CONSIDERABLY SINCE THEN.
WYMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS09134
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780304-0194
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780728/aaaaaxhk.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f738f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1909706
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEED FOR REDESIGNATION OF REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICER POSITION
TAGS: CGEN, APER, AFSP, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f738f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014